

# Chemical



Chemical attacks are a deliberate release of toxic solids, liquids, or gases. These are very harmful not only to people, but the environment as well. If exposed to a chemical attack, contact your local emergency personnel immediately.

## Things to Know:

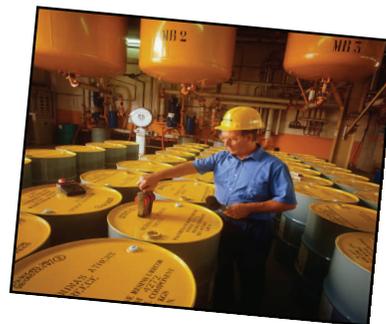
**Chemical Weapons:** Man-made and come in a liquid or gas form. They affect a person's nervous system, blood, skin, or lungs. They cause blistering, inability to breathe, vomiting, loss of bodily control, and possibly death.

**Chemical Agents:** Can be used as a weapon—are hazardous chemicals that have serious effects on people who are exposed. Examples are bombs, aerosol devices, or even crop-dusting airplanes.

## Exposure:

*Common symptoms if exposed are:*

- Watery eyes
- Twitching
- Choking
- Having problems breathing
- Loss of coordination



*What to do:*

- Find clean air.
- Do **NOT** be downwind of the contamination.
- Move as far away as possible from the contamination.
- Remove clothing by cutting it off. Do **NOT** pull contaminated clothing over your head. Then put into a plastic bag and put it far away from other people.
- Decontaminate by taking a shower with lots of soap and water. Be sure to **NOT** scrub the chemical into your skin. You want to wash it off instead.
- If you are stuck in a building and can't get out without going past the chemical agent/material, find clean air or start to barricade yourself as far away as possible. Contact authorities as soon as possible.

For more information on chemical attack preparedness, visit the IDHS website at: [www.in.gov/dhs](http://www.in.gov/dhs).